

1933 Century of Progress Homes

Real estate developer Robert Bartlett purchased five demonstration houses from the 1933-34 Chicago World's Fair. He moved four of the *Century of Progress Homes* by barge across Lake Michigan to Beverly Shores and one by truck. These houses demonstrated modern architectural design, experimental materials, and new technologies such as dishwashers and central air conditioning. Mr. Bartlett hoped that his five houses—the *Cypress Log Cabin*, *House of Tomorrow*, and the *Armco-Ferro*, *Florida Tropical*, and *Wiebolt-Rostone* houses—would entice buyers to his new Beverly Shores resort community.

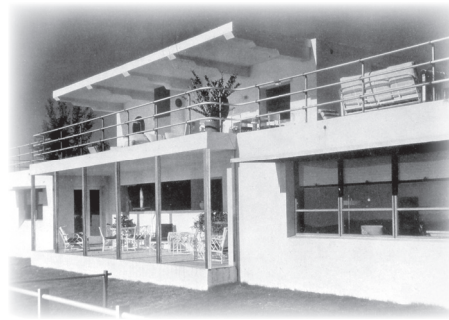
The *Cypress Log Cabin* was built to exhibit the many uses of cypress. At the World's Fair, the cabin had a mountain lodge atmosphere with its fences, arbors, and bridges that were decorated with animal and fantasy creature carvings made of cypress knees. None of these features were replicated when the house was moved to Beverly Shores.



House of Tomorrow

The three-story, steel-framed *House of Tomorrow* featured prefabricated concrete and an airplane hangar. The second and third floor walls were clad in glass. During the summer, the heat generated from these glass walls was so great that it caused the experimental air conditioning system to fail. When the house was moved to Beverly Shores, the glass walls were replaced with operable windows to allow proper air circulation.

The *Armco-Ferro* House, made of corrugated steel panels, is the only remaining *Century of Progress* home to meet the design criteria of the World's Fair Committee. It was affordable and could be mass produced. This seemingly frameless house boasts a revolutionary construction system of corrugated steel panels that are bolted together. This system provided the inspiration for the post World War II prefabricated housing developed by the Lustron Corporation.



Florida Tropical house

The Southern Florida tropical climate inspired the design of the *Florida Tropical* house that blends indoor and outdoor environments with its spacious two-story living room and large open roof terraces.

The *Wiebolt-Rostone* house was framed in steel and clad in an experimental material called Rostone that was made of limestone, shale, and alkali. This material was not as durable as originally expected and, by 1950, had not withstood the harsh climate of the Lake Michigan area.

Today, the *Century of Progress* homes are part of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The park leases the houses to the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. Through this organization, private individuals are subleasing the houses and are restoring them to their original condition through private funding. Please respect these properties by not trespassing.

For More Information

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
1100 North Mineral Springs Road
Porter IN 46304
219-926-7561
www.nps.gov/indu

Cultural Sites Of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore



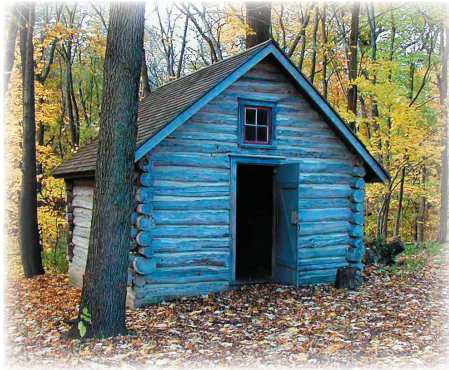
Stroll around the 1900s era Swedish-American Chellberg Farm, visit an 1830s homestead, or marvel at the unique architecture of the 1933 Century of Progress homes on Lake Front Drive.



The Baillys

Three generations of the Bailly family resided at the Bailly Homestead that is now a part of the national lakeshore. The homestead Joseph Bailly and his descendents left behind represents the social, economic, and cultural development of the Calumet Region from 1822 to 1917. This site became a National Historic Landmark in 1962, four years before Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore was established.

The First Generation (1822–1835)



This building represents the type of building Bailly built for the homestead.

Joseph Bailly set up a fur trading post in 1822 at the Little Calumet River and the crossroads of several major trails. He became one of the earliest northern Indiana settlers. According to oral tradition, the Potawatomis used the Bailly site. The Potawatomis traveled

the area seasonally to hunt, fish, and gather berries. Trader Bailly provided supplies to the Potawatomis in exchange for muskrat pelts. When the fur trade ended by the 1830s, Bailly acquired title to 2,000 acres of land through treaties and land cessions by the Potawatomis. The Calumet Region was then opened to Euro-Americans for settlement, and Bailly began building a main house.

The Second Generation (1835–1879)

The second generation of Baillys sold timber from the land for the construction of the expanding nearby railroads. The family recruited Swedish immigrants from Chicago to the area to operate the sawmill. These Swedes eventually purchased land from the Bailly family and settled on farms, helping to establish a Swedish-American community in the Bailly area and the Calumet Region.

The Third Generation (1879–1917)



Today, the Bailly family's main house is restored to its 1917 appearance, the earliest year for which an accurate appearance is documented.

Frances Howe inherited the Bailly Homestead after her mother's death in 1891. She renovated the exterior of the main house and also added a basement, conservatory, and kitchen in the basement.

The Chellbergs

Three generations of the Anders Chellberg Family lived at the Chellberg Farm from 1869 to 1972. The site is now preserved by the National Park Service as an early 20th century Swedish-American farm. Anders and Johanna Chellberg, with their young son Carl, emigrated in 1863 from Sweden to the Calumet Region, where they became members of the growing Swedish community. They purchased their first farm land from the Bailly family in 1869.

First Generation (1869–1893)



Brick Chellberg Farmhouse built in 1885 to replace an earlier wood frame house destroyed by fire.

The first generation of Chellbergs worked their 80-acre farm. At the time, most agriculture in the region consisted of small generalized farms and some orchards. In 1880, the Chellbergs owned sheep, horses, cows, pigs, and chickens;

and they grew rye, hay, wheat, apples, Indian corn, and Irish potatoes. Poor soil made it necessary for most farmers to seek work outside the farm as well.

The Chellbergs were active members of the Augsburg Lutheran Church where Anders was a lay preacher and school superintendent. Anders and Carl became American citizens, and Cahrl Kjellberg changed the spelling of his name to Carl Levin Chellberg.

Second Generation (1893–1937)



Chellberg's Barn

The second generation of Chellbergs converted the farm into a primarily dairy operation. Because the Chicago, Lake Shore and South Bend Railroad stopped one mile short of the farm, the family

transported milk to the train stop daily for shipment to East Chicago, Indiana. The Chellbergs ceased their dairy operation in 1920 when the train no longer stopped near their homestead.

The Chellbergs grew wheat, oats, and vegetables; had an orchard; and raised hogs and chickens. In the 1930s, when the family needed extra cash to pay property taxes, they made and sold pure maple syrup from 100 tapped sugar maple trees.

Third Generation (1937–1972)

The third generation of Chellbergs divided their farmland. The changing economic environment made it difficult to survive on the proceeds obtainable from the small farm in an area that was quickly becoming industrialized. There were more opportunities for the family to work off the farm for local industries.